

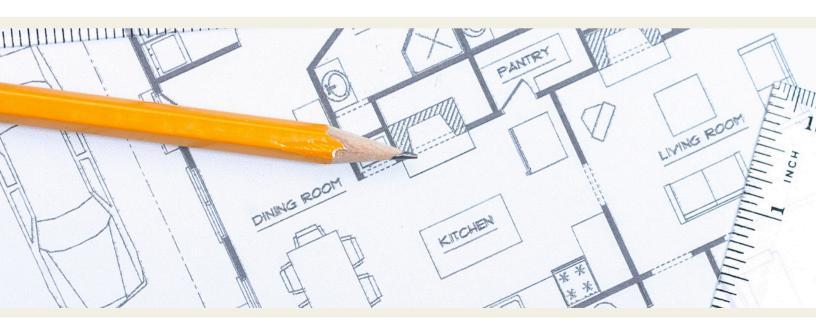
# Custom Home Planning Guide

# Table of Contents

Each section of our planning guide is a deep dive into a key component for planning your custom construction project. Here is what's inside...

- FINDING A BUILDER
  Learn how to interview & evaluate
  different builders with questions
  that address the most important
  parts of the process.
- PROCESS & MILESTONES

  Explore the construction process & learn more about the different components of a "good bones" build.
- DESIGNING YOUR DREAM HOME
  Whether you have a crystal clear
  vision or you're looking for tips to
  get started, this chapter has tools to
  focus your design & bring your
  dream home to life.
- Demystify the construction budgeting & funding process & start developing a blueprint to make the most of your investment in your dream home.



#### YOUR DREAM HOME STARTS HERE

Building a custom home is about more than real estate, it is about crafting a sanctuary that is a true reflection of your lifestyle, personality & dreams.

This Custom Home Building Planning Guide is your blueprint for making your dream a reality. Packed with insights, ideas & advice, consider this your toolbox for preparing to build the perfect home.

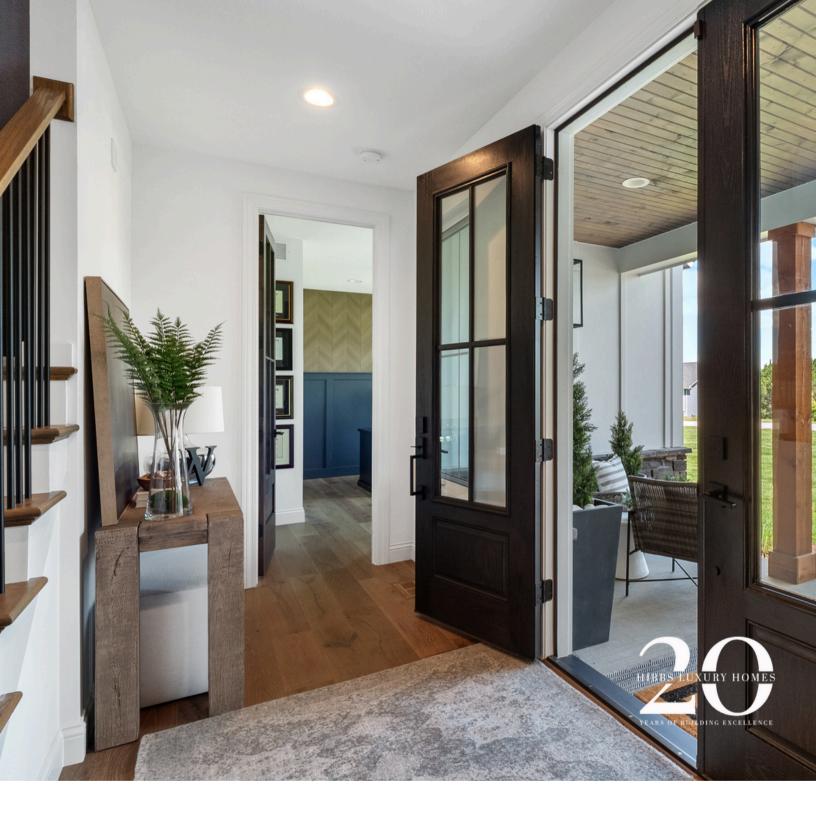
From prioritizing your floor plan to choosing the right builder, we hope this guide prepares you to start your dream home journey with confidence & clarity.

Let's turn your ideas into a plan - one thoughtful step at a time!

Kim Hibby J CAM



Kim Hibbs & Jan Hibbs Co-Founders & Owners



# Find Your Builder

### FIND THE RIGHT BUILDER

# Key Points to Discuss

Finding the right builder for your project is the most important step in kickstarting your construction project. But it doesn't have to be stressful! Here are some the key areas to discuss when you're deciding who you will trust to build your dream home.



#### **✓** COMMUNICATION

Communication is the foundation of every successful building project. Learn how the builder communicates progress & challenges, as well as how they will organize your selections & project timeline. Do they have a specific tool or team member who handles this? How do they communicate their processes & how responsive are they to questions?



#### ✓ PROCESSES

This is the first - and only! - time your plan is being built. Custom construction requires the ability to problem solve in the field & a unique approach to quality assurance. How do they solve problems with land or plans? Ask for examples. How do they ensure all of the components of a plan are in place? Do they have a quality assurance process & how do they address issues with their subcontractors & vendors?



#### **✓** INTEGRITY

Finding a trustworthy, knowledgable builder makes the home building experience more rewarding & less stressful. Check each builder's affiliations with their local HBA, NAHB & BBB. Most builders will be happy to share contact information for a few past clients. Be wary if they can't - this could mean they haven't been in business long, lack custom building experience, or have a series of unhappy clients.

# Custom Building Advantage

Building a custom home offers several distinct advantages over purchasing a big-box or production builder's home. From the experience of designing & building to the comfort & quality you see from day one living in your dream home, there are several key benefits of building custom. Here are some things to keep in mind when you're deciding your next steps.



### CURATED & UNIQUE DESIGN

A true custom home gives you a hand in designing every aspect of to fit your needs, lifestyle & taste. From the selection of the land to the placement of windows, you have complete ownership in your one-of-a-kind home's design.

#### VALUE ENGINEERING & QUALITY

During the design process your builder helps direct your design to make the most of your budget while achieving your goals & without compromising quality. Most custom homebuilders use higher-quality materials & pay closer attention to details when building. Because they are always evaluating & learning about new materials and techniques, they do not become "design-blind" due to plan repetition.

### **COMFORT & EFFICIENCY**

Custom construction gives you the opportunity to find a high-performance builder. The systems, materials & building products used in high-performance construction make your home more comfortable room-to-room & more resource efficient.

### EXPERIENCE: THE DIFFERENCE

## Meet Our Team



#### KIM HIBBS President

Kim founded Hibbs Luxury Homes in 2004 alongside his wife, Jan. Renowned nationally as a leading high-performance builder, Kim has been a Master Certified Green Home Builder for 15 years, has served on the board of the National Home Builders Association for 10 years, and is the past-president of the HBA of Eastern Missouri.

#### JAN HIBBS Vice President

Jan is a licensed realtor or over 30 years and co-founded Hibbs Luxury Homes in 2004. She oversees the operations & financial side of the business to ensure everything is running smoothly. She is an active member of the HBA of Eastern Missouri & served as the president of Professional Women in Building Council.





CHRIS PEDIGO General Manager

Chris oversees the team, trades, & projects to ensure your home meets our standards for quality & excellence. He value engineers your plans for budget & to mitigate issues, helps develop the budget for your project & oversees the construction & warranty processes.

#### **SUPERINTENDENTS**

Your project is assigned a superintendent who is the point man on your home's construction. They visit the job site daily to ensure every part of your home meets Hibbs Homes Standards for quality & are there to address issues as they arise during the project.





#### **DESIGN TEAM**

The design team is your resource for managing your selections & budget to help you achieve your dream home vision. They will meet with you at showrooms, review your selections & help you manage your selections timeline.



# Design Your Dream Home

### LET'S START BRAINSTORMING

## Lifestyle Interview

Designing & building your home give you the opportunity to combine everything you love into one floor plan. From hobbies to tastes, explore what you love & make your home a collection of your favorite design moments...

- What do you love about your current home?
- Do you like to entertain a lot, or host family gatherings?
- What are the most frequently used rooms in your current home?
- Do you have any pets that stay inside or out?
- Do you have young children, adult children who visit, or other generations living with you?
- Do you envision a more casual or formal home? Mixture of both?



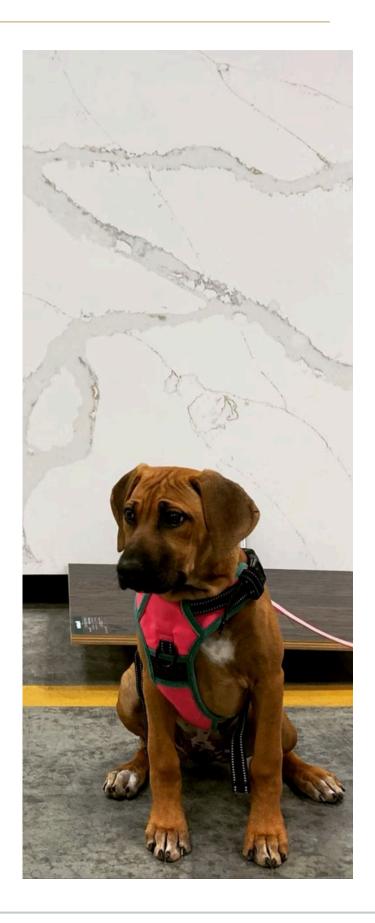
### LIFESTYLE INTERVIEW CONTINUED

What do you see when you imagine you dream home?

What special spaces for hobbies or work do you need?

What outdoor spaces are important to your home's design?

What is your primary reason for building a custom home?



# Dream Home Checklist

Developing more detail around your vision is a great first step in the process. Thinking about the answers to some of the lifestyle interview questions, complete this checklist. Consider what is a want, need, or nice-to-have & make note of your priorities.

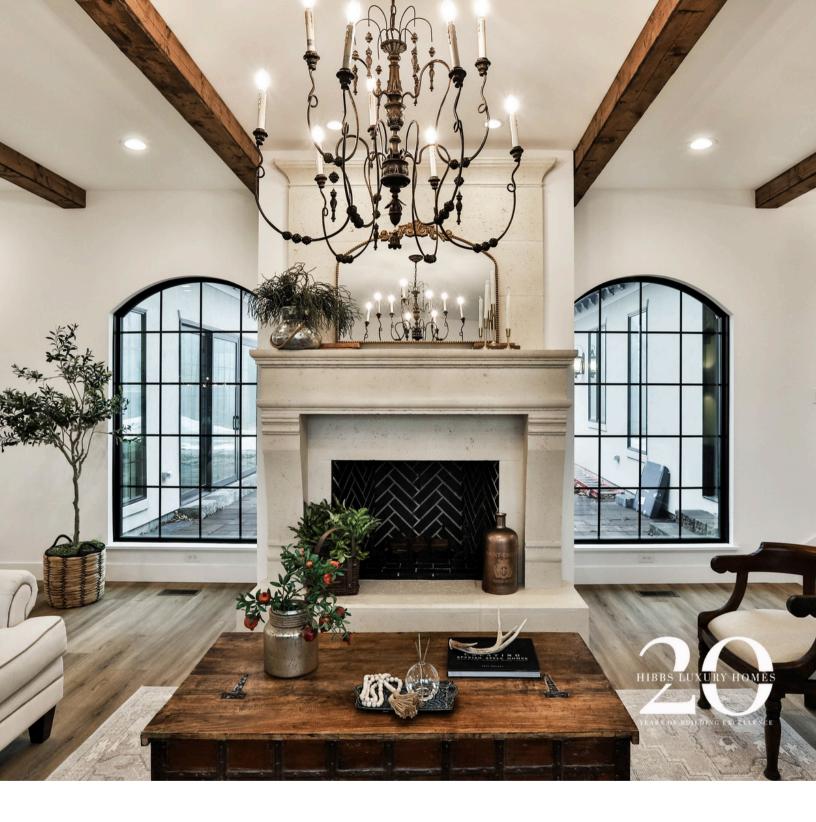
| Approximate SqFt: (Excluding Basement) Floor Plan Style: (Circle One) Ranch/Ram Number of Bedrooms: Number of Bathrooms: Basement: (Circle One) Finished or Unfinished   | bler or 1.5 Story or 2 Story  |
|--|---|
| What <b>lifestyle factors</b> are important to your design?  | Which of these <b>design elements</b> are important to you?   |
| ☐ Young Children (now or future)   | ☐ Open Floor Plan   |
| <ul> <li>□ Work From Home</li> <li>□ Home Schooling</li> <li>□ Aging in Place (Retirement)</li> <li>□ Accessibility/Universal Design</li> <li>□ Multigenerational Living</li> <li>□ Sustainable Living</li> <li>□ Sensory Needs</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>□ Lots of Natural Light (large windows, skylights, etc)</li> <li>□ Natural Textures (wood, stone)</li> <li>□ Modern, Simple, Clean Lines</li> <li>□ Modern Farmhouse</li> <li>□ Classic Farmhouse</li> <li>□ Elegant, simple</li> <li>□ Elegant, ornate</li> </ul> |
| The <b>Family Room</b> should include the follow   | wing:   |
| ☐ Fireplace(s)   | ☐ Piano/Reading Niche   |
| □ Gas  | ☐ Vaulted Ceilings  |
| □ Wood   | ☐ Coffered Ceilings   |
| ☐ Double Sided   | ☐ Wood Beams  |
| ☐ Direct Access to Outdoor Living  | ☐ Built-In Shelving   |
| ☐ Open to Kitchen/Dining   | ☐ Wet Bar   |
| ☐ Wired for Television/Audio   | ☐ Stone or Millwork Accents   |

## DREAM HOME CHECKLIST CONT'D

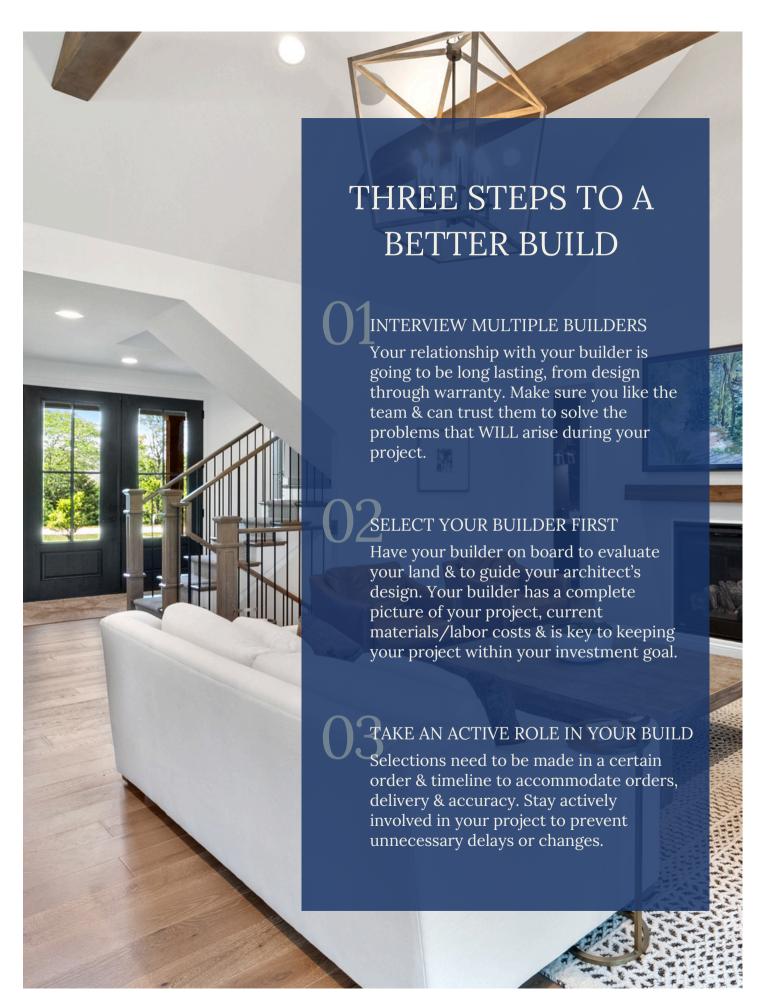
| The <b>Kitchen</b> should include:        | The <b>Outdoor Living Area</b> should include: |
|---|--|
| ☐ Gas Stove/Cooktop                       | ☐ Outdoor Fireplace or Firepit                 |
| ☐ Breakfast Nook w/Benches                | ☐ Covered or Not Covered (circle one)          |
| ☐ Walk-In Pantry                          | ☐ Heated Floor                                 |
| ☐ Refrigerated Storage                    | ☐ Outdoor TV                                   |
| ☐ Dishwasher                              | ☐ Golf Turf                                    |
| □ Sink                                    | ☐ Outdoor Lighting                             |
| ☐ Counter Space                           | ☐ Outdoor Speakers                             |
| ☐ Island with sink                        | ☐ Outdoor Kitchen                              |
| ☐ Island without sink                     | ☐ Built-In Grill                               |
| ☐ Two Separate Sinks                      | ☐ Sink   |
| ☐ Two Separate Islands                    | ☐ Refrigerator                                 |
| ☐ Island with Appliances                  |  |
| ☐ Appliances                              | The <b>Deck Living Area</b> should include:    |
| ☐ Energy Efficient                        | □ Cedar  |
| ☐ Entry Level                             | ☐ Composite                                    |
| □ Mid-Grade                               | ☐ Stairs                                       |
| □ Chef's                                  | ☐ Covered or Not Covered (circle one)          |
|   | ☐ Outdoor Lighting/Ceiling Fan                 |
|   | ☐ Outdoor TV/Speakers                          |
| The <b>Landscape Plan</b> should include: | The <b>Garage</b> should include:              |
| <del>-</del>                              | _  |
| □ Courtyard                               | □ bays   |
| ☐ Tennis Court                            | ☐ Detached                                     |
| ☐ Sport Court                             | ☐ Attached                                     |
| ☐ Gardens                                 | □ Porte-cochère                                |
| ☐ Trees and Landscaping                   | Additional Parking for RV or Boat              |
| ☐ Lawn: Seed or Sod or Both               | ☐ Cabinets                                     |
| ☐ Sprinkler/Drip/Misting System           | ☐ Workbench                                    |
| ☐ Outdoor Lighting                        | ☐ Surface Mounted Lifts                        |
| ☐ Swimming Pool/Lap Pool                  | ☐ Collector Car Storage                        |
| ☐ Hot Tub                                 |  |

## DREAM HOME CHECKLIST CONT'D

| Optional Additional Spaces:        | Basement Finishes:            |  |  |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|
| ☐ Home Office                      | ☐ Unfinished                  |  |  |
| ☐ Game/Media Room                  | ☐ Rough-In                    |  |  |
| ☐ Wet Bar                          | ☐ Bathroom                    |  |  |
| ☐ Home Gym                         | ☐ Bedroom (s)                 |  |  |
| ☐ Play Room                        | ☐ Gaming/Media Room           |  |  |
| ☐ Indoor Sport Court               | ☐ Built-In Shelving           |  |  |
| ☐ Loft Area                        | ☐ Family Room                 |  |  |
| ☐ Greenroom                        | ☐ Kitchenette                 |  |  |
| ☐ Wine Cellar                      | ☐ Wet bar                     |  |  |
| ☐ Mudroom                          | ☐ Dry bar                     |  |  |
| ☐ Safe or Safe Room                | ☐ Guest Quarters              |  |  |
| ☐ Craft/Sewing Room                | ☐ Home Gym                    |  |  |
| ☐ Pet Wash Station                 | ☐ Kids' Playroom              |  |  |
| ☐ Secondary Suite                  |                               |  |  |
| ☐ In-Law or Guest Apartment        |                               |  |  |
| Accessibility Features:            | Sustainable Living Features:  |  |  |
| ☐ Extra-Wide Doorways              | ☐ Attic Fans                  |  |  |
| ☐ Ramps                            | ☐ Ceiling Fans                |  |  |
| ☐ Grab Bars                        | ☐ Dual or Triple-Pane Windows |  |  |
| ☐ Lower Counter/Cabinet Heights    | Smart Thermostats             |  |  |
| ☐ Walk-In tubs                     | ☐ Single Flush Toilets        |  |  |
| ☐ Zero-Entry Showers               | ☐ Window Shutters             |  |  |
| ☐ Zero-Entry Patio Access          | □ Solar                       |  |  |
| ☐ Sensory or Quiet Room            | ☐ Solar Screens               |  |  |
| □ Elevator                         | ☐ EV Charging                 |  |  |
| ☐ Stepless Garage Entry            | Tankless Water Heater         |  |  |
| ☐ Pull Down Closet Bars            | Skylights or Sun Tunnels      |  |  |
| ☐ Main Floor Primary Bedroom Suite | ☐ Geothermal Heating/Cooling  |  |  |
| Specialty Lighting Plan            | □ Net-Zero                    |  |  |
|                                    | ☐ Green Certifications        |  |  |
| Home Automation:                   |                               |  |  |
| ☐ Automation ☐ Heated Floors       |                               |  |  |
| ☐ Security ☐ Heated Driveway       |                               |  |  |
| ☐ Central Vacuum ☐ Plumbing Alarms |                               |  |  |



# CHAPTER THREE Process & Milestones



# CONSTRUCTION PROCESS MILESTONES



#### DEMOLITION & EXCAVATION

The first on-site work demolition & preparation of your land. We clear rocks, trees, & other debris. If your lot has an existing structure, many municipalities require inspections before demolition.

#### FRAMING, PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL

Hibbs Homes combines advanced building science & techniques that balance the materials, systems, & design of your home to achieve the highest level of energy efficiency, durability & healthy indoor air quality. During our high-performance framing phase, we review with your a plumbing & electrical plan to maximize the performance & day-to-day comfort.

#### **DRYWALL & FINISHES**

When your home's major systems are in place & inspected, it's time to hang the drywall & install your finishes - inside & out. This is when your house begins to feel like a home! Outside, we finish the masonry & siding while inside, flooring, carpentry, and kitchen/bath installation begins. One of the final steps is the paint going on the walls & fixture installations.

#### WARRANTY

Every builder's warranty is different, which is why it is important to ask about warranty terms and conditions when selecting your builder. Discuss what standards they will bring your home to when making repairs & how to contact them in case of an emergency.

#### FOUNDATION & BACKFILL

After excavation your foundation's footings are poured and is immediately followed by the foundation walls.

During this process we are completing quality control inspections & our proprietary waterproofing measures, including backfill & grading.

#### HVAC & INSULATION

In addition to a high-performance heating and cooling system in your home, high performance insulation keeps your home comfortable & reduces the load on your system. A thorough caulk & seal package is standard practice to close gaps between construction materials, further insulating your home from the elements and from pests. You want a tightly built home that is ventilated appropriately.

#### CLOSING & MOVING DAY

Moving day is the most exciting day & your builder wants it to be perfect. The week prior to your movein date your builder will walk with you through your home to create a punch list identifying any lastminute adjustments needed before you get the keys.

# Home Building Glossary

#### PRE-CONSTRUCTION SERVICES AGREEMENT

A contract between a client and builder outlining pre-build services performed during the design & budgeting phase. These services typically include design coordination, value engineering, site analysis, and architecture review processes. This agreement will fold into the construction contract in the next phase.

#### HIGH-PERFORMANCE BUILDING

A term for an approach to construction, materials, and systems used in a home that exceed standard practices for home building and green certification standards. This approach to building ensures a home is more energy efficient, comfortable, durable, and healthier to live in.

#### HOME ENERGY RATING SYSTEM (HERS)

The HERS Index is a standard measurement for a home's energy efficiency & performance. Using a blower door test, inspections, and air quality measurements, an independent rater grades a home on a scale used to compare to preexisting & other new construction homes.

#### **DUE DILIGENCE**

A due diligence period is written into a land purchase contract to give the buyer an opportunity to thoroughly investigate the property & have their builder come out to evaluate it, as well.

#### VALUE ENGINEERING

The process of analyzing a home's design to optimize its function, aesthetics, and cost-effectiveness. An experienced custom builder collaborates with the architect and client to analyze construction documents to optimize the design & budget.

#### **INFILL CONSTRUCTION**

This type of construction occurs in neighborhoods and municipalities that are already largely built out. A homeowner will purchase a home that is aging out and earmarked for deconstruction. A new construction home is then built on the lot.





# CHAPTER FOUR Budget & Financing

### FUND YOUR DREAM HOME

# Budget & Financing

If you've never built a home before, you may be wondering how funding & budgeting for your construction project works. There are differences between financing for building a home versus the mortgage process for pre-existing homes. While every situation is different, here are a few tools to help you navigate financing & budgeting your project.

### COMMON CONSTRUCTION LOAN TYPES

- ONE-TIME CLOSE: covers the construction phase then converts to permanent after closing. Typically, you only pay the interest on your loan during construction.
- STAND ALONE: A short-term loan used solely for the construction phase with a separate mortgage after moving day.



#### CONSTRUCTION LOAN PROCESS

- SELECT YOUR BUILDER
- Interview & select your builder, then begin the design process.
- FIND YOUR LENDER
  - Talk to lenders about their products & programs & select the one that fits your needs. Submit your application.
- FINALIZE DESIGN & BUDGET

  After your design & budget are complete,

  An appraisal is typically done to prepare to close & begin construction.

### PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

# Determine Your Budget

Building your custom home's construction budget does not have to be a daunting task. A true custom project means you own the land you are building on and your budget for construction is determined by three major drivers: land prep, size/complexity of your floor plan & the finishes you will be adding to your home.



#### LAND PREPARATION

While looking for land, you'll decide between a teardown & build or developing a new piece of land. Your builder can evaluate the land to make sure the costs to bring things like utilities, driveway & retaining walls, or tree clearing fit within your plans & your budget. Don't be afraid of demo costs - sometimes they are less than or equal to the cost of developing on acreage!



#### SIZE & COMPLEXITY

The size of your home - from bedrooms & bathrooms to square footage of indoor versus outdoor living - will form the basis of your construction budget. While you're designing, you should also keep in mind the complexity of rooflines, footprint & the above grade square footage placement will impact costs. For example, building up instead of out will cut costs for excavation & foundation. Your builder is key to value engineering during design!



#### FINISH LEVEL

The finishes and materials chosen to complete your home is an equally important driver of costs. Like your home's footprint, this is an opportunity to control costs by prioritizing area. Choosing base-level finishes for kids spaces & luxury level finishes for the primary bedroom and kitchen is one way to prioritize your budget. Your designer will help you find other ways to stay in budget.

### CUSTOM DESIGN GUIDE

# Staying on Budget

No two square feet of a custom home are the same & that is why a price per square foot in custom building is a misnomer. But, you can start to determine where you can splurge & save with our Hibbs Luxury Homes Client Averages & your construction budget.

### YOUR TARGET BUDGET:

| SELECTION  | HIBBS LUXURY HOMES<br>CLIENT AVERAGE | SUGGESTED MAXIMUM |  |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Windows & Exterior Doors   | 3.5%                                 |                   |  |
| Exterior Selections  | Varies Widely                        |                   |  |
| Garage Doors   | .4%                                  |                   |  |
| Firebox(es)  | 1.2%                                 |                   |  |
| Appliances   | 1.6%                                 |                   |  |
| Cabinets & Mudroom   | 6%                                   |                   |  |
| Flooring & Tile  | 4.3%                                 |                   |  |
| Fireplace Surround & Mantle  | .6%                                  |                   |  |
| Shower Surround/Tile<br>(Typically included in flooring or plumbing) | n/a                                  |                   |  |
| Countertops  | 2%                                   |                   |  |
| Plumbing Fixtures  | 1.4%                                 |                   |  |
| Lighting   | 1%                                   |                   |  |
| Custom Shelving  | 1%                                   |                   |  |

| SELECTION                      | HIBBS LUXURY HOMES CLIENT<br>AVERAGE | SUGGESTED MAXIMUM |  |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Interior Doors & Trim/Millwork | Varies                               |                   |  |
| Decking Materials              | Varies                               |                   |  |
| Low Volt/Security              | Varies                               |                   |  |
| Stairs                         | 1%                                   |                   |  |
| Paint & Stain Selections       | Varies                               |                   |  |
| Shower Doors                   | .5%                                  |                   |  |
| Mirrors                        | Varies Widely                        |                   |  |
| Landscaping                    | .5%                                  |                   |  |
| Smart Home Options             | n/a                                  |                   |  |
| LOWER LEVEL FINISHES           | HIBBS LUXURY HOMES CLIENT<br>AVERAGE | SUGGESTED MAXIMUM |  |
| Cabinets                       | 1%                                   |                   |  |
| Plumbing Fixtures              | .5%                                  |                   |  |
| Lighting Fixtures              | .5%                                  |                   |  |
| Flooring                       | 2%                                   |                   |  |
| Appliances                     | .5%                                  |                   |  |
| Countertops                    | .5%                                  |                   |  |

| LUX EXTRAS                 | Many clients wish to include these unique finishes or custom spaces to their homes. While these options fall outside standards, you may want to consider adding them to your finishes budget. |  |  |
|----------------------------|---|--|--|
| Prep Kitchen               | Varies  |  |  |
| Wet/Coffee Bar             | Varie   |  |  |
| Closet Island              | Varies  |  |  |
| Additional Laundry         | Varies  |  |  |
| Waterfall Countertops      | Varies  |  |  |
| Second Island              | Varies  |  |  |
| Built-ins/Floating Shelves | Varies  |  |  |
| Living Space Over Garage   | Varies  |  |  |
| Window Treatments          | Varies  |  |  |

| NOTES |  |  |
|-------|--|--|
|       |  |  |
|       |  |  |
|       |  |  |
|       |  |  |
|       |  |  |
|       |  |  |